A REVIEW OF THE Affairs of *FRANCE*:

With Obſervations on TRANSACTIONS at Home.

Saturday, Auguſt 11. 1705.

I Cannot Cloſe my Diſcourſe on the Subject of the late *High-Church Memorial*, till I have attempted to ſay ſomething of the Behaviour of the High Church Men in general, upon the Subject; and this I do the rather, that my Cenſuring the Party, on occaſion of this Book, may not Deſerve the Character of Raſh; which ſome People, *with more Raſhneſs I think*, are apt to beſtow upon it——

When the Book, call'd, *The Shorteſt Way with the Diſſenters*, firſt appear'd in the World, and before theſe High-flown Gentlemen knew its Author; while the Piece, in its Outward Figure, look'd ſo Natural, and was as like a Brat of their own begetting, that like two Apples, they could not know them aſunder, the Author's True Deſign in the Writing of it, had its Wonderful and Immediate Effect.

The Gentlemen of the High Church, immediately fell in with the Project; nothing could have been more Grateful to them, than Arguments to prove the Neceſſity of Ruining the Diſſenters, and removing thoſe Obſtructions to the Church's Glory, out of the way; and a Gentleman of that Party, whoſe Eyes were ſhut by his Zeal, from Diſcerning the Bottom, gave the following Anſwer to a certain Bookſeller in *London*, who ſent him the Book; the Original of which Letter, I have ſtill by me.

SIR,

I Received yours, and Incloſed the Book, Entitled, The Shorteſt Way, *&c. a Book, which next to the Holy Bible, and Sacred Comments, I Eſteem as the moſt Valuable Piece I have; and I pray God put it into the Heart of the Queen, to put all that is there preſcribed into Execution.*

We have Innumerable Teſtimonies beſides this, of the Pleaſure with which the Party Embrac'd the Propoſal of ſending all

the Diſſenters Miniſters to the Gallows, and the Galleys——Of having all their Meeting-Houſes Demoliſh'd, and being let looſe upon their People, to Plunder and Deſtroy them.

And when Sir *S*—— *H*—— Aggravated it againſt the Author, That he Deſign'd in the Book, to have the World believe the Church of *England* would have the Diſſenters thus uſed; 'tis preſumed, without Reflection upon that Gentleman's Penetration, that he had not heard how Eagerly they granted the Suggeſtion, by Eſpouſing the Propoſal, and by acknowledging it was the very thing they Deſir'd.

Now here is another Teſt put upon the World, of this True High-Church Principle; Deſtruction of Diſſenters is proved to be no more Perſecution, than Hanging of High-way-men; and the Diſſenters, like Our Bleſſed Lord and Saviour, are *Numbred with Tranſgreſſors.*

This is ſaying in Earneſt, what the Author of *the Shorteſt Way*, ſaid in Jeſt; this is Owning that to the Sun, which Sir *S*—— *H*——ſaid before, was a Crime to Suggeſt: Well might the Author of a certain Hymn, ſay of theſe Men——

Tell him the Men that plac'd him there,
Are Scandals to the Time;
Are at a Loſs to find the Guilt,
And can't Commit the Crime.
Hymn to the Pillory, *P.* 24.

Now the Bleſſed Days are come, that the Great Truth is own'd Bare-fac'd; and the Party that Ruin'd and Abus'd that Author, for telling the Truth out of Seaſon, make no Scruple of taking this as the proper Seaſon to tell the ſame Truth in their own way.

From this the Author obſerves——Every Man ought to have the Telling of his own Story himſelf; and that Book Deſerv'd a Cenſure, not that it was True, but becauſe it was not ſpoke by the Right Perſon.

And now pray, Gentlemen, let us Obſerve what the High Churchmen ſay to this Book——An Admirable Treatiſe, ſays one of *the Sons of God*, too publick to need pointing at, and of Excellent Uſe at this Time of Day.

Dyer, the Famous Country Trumpet of the Party——A Fellow, that however Affronting to the Government, and the Church, Writes with Intolerable Inſolence, who has born Kicking, Caning, and all ſorts of Common Correction, for Belying and Abuſing Private Gentlemen; and by Concealing his Letter in *London*, ſpreads continued Reproaches on the Government, round the Country. In one of his moſt Scandalous News Letters, Writes to this purpoſe.

"There is ſtrict Enquiry made after a "Book, Entitled, *The Memorial*; a Tract "Wrote for the Service of the Church "——While other *Whiggiſh* Books, "Wrote againſt the Church, are ſuffered "to be ſpread about the Town, Unre-"garded.

In another of his Letters, he tells us to this Effect.

"The *Memorial*, that was endeavour'd "ſo Earneſtly to be Suppreſs'd, is now ſold "publickly about Town; the Author reſol-"ving to take the Benefit of his Copy, and "ſtand the Teſt of the Law; and the pre-"tended Anſwers to it, rather Confirm, "and not Confute his Aſſertions.

Arrogant Scribler! Why did theſe pretended Anſwers not Confute his Aſſertions? The Reaſon is plain, it was becauſe they were *pretended Anſwers*, and not Deſign'd to Confute 'em; had the Anſwers been made to Confute, 'tis plain, there are in that Book ſuch Abſurdities, ſuch Ungrounded Aſſertions, ſuch Manifeſt Forgeries, ſuch Abominable Falſities, that no Man could have Front enough to puſh upon the World, but he that can at the ſame time tell an Untruth, on the Preſumption of being Conceal'd from the World; and ſo not have the Contradiction of it faſtned Perſonally upon himſelf.

Upon the ſtrength of this Suppoſition, I would be glad to ſtand in the room of the Author, as to Puniſhment, upon Condition he ſhould be bound to make good what he alledges.

And I wiſh the Government would puliſh by Proclamation, That the Author of this *Memorial*, ſhould receive a Thouſand Pounds

Pounds Reward, and a Pardon, on Condition as above; that he would prove the Truth of the Positive Assertions in that Virulent Pamphlet.

As therefore Negatives are less easie to make out, and the Author of the Affirmative is Conceal'd; I can do no more, than with a *Bellarmine thou Lyest*, lay down by way of Positive Assertion, the Falsity of his Book, in the several Articles following.

"First, He says the Dissenters were under such a Disappointment and Consternation at the Death of King *William*, that "they were ready to have thrown the "Church a Blank, and to have purchased "Impunity with Incapacity,

This is as Unaccountable a Forgery, and as positively false, as if he should have said, That *Moses* would have been Content to have gone out of the Land of *Egypt*, with the Men of *Israel*, upon Condition to leave their Wives and Children behind them——

One thing I cannot but observe in this Case, which more particularly will serve to Convince the World, That all this Assertion is a Lye——If the Dissenters stood so much in need of a Pardon, and would have bought it so Dear, how come it to pass, that Pardon being refused, *for 'tis plain they had it not*, they had not been Punish'd in proportion? 'tis plain from the High Church Temper, they never forgave the *Whiggs* any thing, nor ever Omited Punishing them when they could; How came it to pass then they were not Punish'd, since 'tis plain they were not Pardoned?

If the *Dissenters* would have been Contented to have forfeited their Right to all Offices and Preferments to obtain a Pardon for their Crimes; these two Things must needs follow:

First, You, Gentlemen of the High-Church, were very Cruel that you would not Pardon them, when they offer'd so much for it.

Secondly, You were very Fools.

1. That having refused to pardon them, you lost the Advantage you have since strove so hard for. And,

2. That you lost the Opportunity of your Revenge, by punishing Criminals you had brought so low.

Whoever therefore knows your Revengeful and implacable Temper, at the Dissenters, will never believe it was in your Power to punish them, *because you did not*.

It is a plain Case, that there was no Crime, because there was no Punishment; since we may Challenge any Man to tell us, whenever it was in the High Church Power to Injure the Dissenters, and they did not do it.

To say the Dissenters would have quitted their Claim to all Offices for the Favour of the Government; that they would have Purchased Impunity with Incapacity; and to grant they had not the Impunity, nor any Punishment, must be to Tax the High Church's Discretion, that neither Granted the first, nor Inflicted the last.

A Sober Examiner of this *Memorial*, would next consider, what was the Crime the Dissenters had committed; and why had not the Author prescribed this Fault, for which the Dissenters were so Obnoxious?

With all humble regard to Her Majesty's Clemency, none of the Queens Subjects have had less Occasion to fly to Her Mercy than the Dissenters: It is no Reflection upon the Royal Mercy, for a Subject to say, He has no Occasion; every Man ought to behave himself, so, as not to stand in Need of Forgiveness, or the Forbearance of his Prince.

He that wants his Prince's Mercy, may indeed have greater Obligations to the Prince; but he that can say, he asks no Pardon, *is by much* the best Subject, both to his Country, and to his Sovereign.

Her Majesty has since Her Gentle Reign, pass'd no Act of Indemnity, nor has any of the *Whiggs* or *Dissenters*, mov'd Her Majesty for it; which had they been Guilty of what this Book Insinuates, they must have great reason to have done; but he that Dares Demand Justice, never *cry's Mercy*.

Thus 'tis plain, the very foundation of this Book is laid upon Forgery and Lyes; and Mr. *Dyer's Reputation* can never uphold it; if this be for the Church, as Mr. *Dyer* says, 'tis very little for the Credit of the Church, to have a part of her Body supported and assisted by a Complication of Absurdities, and a Sanctuary of Falshood.

Page the 5th, Comes the *Memorial* with another Positive Fiction, form'd in his own Brain, and which I fairly Challenge all the High-Church Party to make out, or any Similitude in the Actions of the Dissenters; " Their own Consciences, *says he*, prompted " them to seek Pardon and Peace.

Pray, Gentlemen, let your Great Champions appear, and make this good; and in order to it, let us understand who did they seek it of? And who did they seek it for? Till this is made out, the whole Book will suffer a Blemish, no Wise Man will pretend to wipe out; and all *Dyer*'s Assistance can never purge it from. From which Principle I always thought there was never a better way to open the Eyes of the Nation, to make a right Judgment of *High-Church Principles*, than to have this Book, with necessary Comments, made as Publick as possible; that as all their preposterousness has Expos'd themselves, and driven Honest Men from them; so this would still farther open the Eyes of the *English* Nation, ripen them for a due Contempt of the Party, and in the End, Compleat the Destruction of a Party, whose Ends are Villainous, their Manners Scandalous, and their Methods Ridiculous.

WHereas a Proposal has been made by the Author of this Paper, for Subscriptions to a Book in Folio, Entitled, *Jure Divino*; or, *A Satyr upon Tyranny and Passive Obedience*. To which, Abundance of Gentlemen having long since Subscrib'd, and the Time seeming long for its coming out, some very Good Reasons having obliged the Author to put a stop to it,

These are to give Notice, That the said Book is now in the Press, and shall go on to be Printed with all Expedition: And for the further Satisfaction of the Subscribers, the Sheets may be seen by any that please to give themselves that Trouble, at Mr. *Matthews*'s, as they come out of the Press.

All those Gentlemen, who have Collected Subscriptions for this Book are Desir'd to send in an Account of what Number they have taken, there being no more to be Printed, than shall be given Notice, as Subscribed; and, if they please, to Pay the Subscription Money to Mr. *Matthews*, in *Pilkington Court*, *Little-Britain*, Receipts will be given there for it.

Just Publish'd.

THe High-Church Legeon: Or, The Memorial Examin'd. Being, A New Test of Moderation. As 'tis recommended to all that love the Church of *England*, and the Constitution. By the Author of the *True-born English-Man*. Printed in the Year, 1705. Price Six Pence.

*** PROPOSALS (*different from all others yet publish'd*) for a *Perpetual Assurance Office*: Wherein either SEX may Subscribe, and by Paying 6 *l. per Annum*, secure an equal Dividend of 10000 *l.* at their Deaths, which in all probability cannot amount to less than 500 Pounds, or a much greater Sum, to any Person they shall Name, besides 3 *l.* out of every 6 *l.* which they shall have Paid, together with other Advantages (during Life) which will reduce every Member's Yearly Payment to less than 40 *s.* Subscriptions are taken, and Proposals at large given *gratis*, at the *Inrollment Office* in *Chancery Lane*; Mr. *J. Matthews* a Printer, and Mr. *Sambridge*, in Little-Brittain; Mr. *Barnes*, in Pall-Mall; Mr. *Nutt*, near Stationers-Hall; Mr. *Strahan* and Mr. *Davis* in Cornhill; Mr. *Hartley*, and Mr. *Hodgson*'s in Holborn; Mr. *Barker* in Westminster-Hall; and Mr. *Smith* without Temple-Bar, Booksellers. (*** Note, *That no Money is to be Paid, till the Society be full, and Security given.*) Against which, if any Subscriber shall object, he shall be at Liberty, whether he will stand to his Subscription, or not.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE Royal Essence for the Hair of the Head and Perriwigs, being the most delicate and charming Perfume in Nature, and the greatest Preserver of Hair in the World, for it keeps that of Perriwigs (a much longer time than usual) in the Curl, and fair Hair from fading or changing colour, makes the Hair of the Head grow thick, strengthens and confirms its Roots, and effectually prevents it from falling off or splitting at the ends, makes the Powder continue in all Hair longer than it possibly will, by the use of any other thing. By its incomparable Odour and Fragancy it strengthens the Brain, revives the Spirits, quickens the Memory, and makes the Heart chearful, never raises the Vapours in Ladies, &c. being wholly free from (and abundantly more delightful and pleasant than) Musk, Civet, &c. 'Tis indeed an unparalled fine Scent for the Pocket, and perfumes Handkerchiefs, &c. excellently. To be had only at Mr. *Allcrafts*, a Toyshop at the Blue-Coat Boy against the *Royal Exchange* in *Cornhill*. Sealed up, at 2 *s.* 6 *d.* a Bottle with Directions. Beware of Counterfeits, such are abroad, accompany'd with Base Insinuations, and Romantick Pretences.